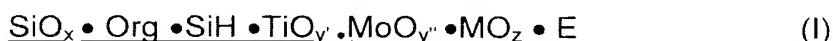


In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-6 (Cancelled)

Claim 7 (Currently amended): A precious metal-containing support ~~comprising of the~~ formula (I):



wherein

SiO_x represents silicon oxide

Org represents at least one non-hydrolysable organic constituent

SiH represents the molar proportion of SiH units

TiO_{y'} represents titanium dioxide,

MoO_{y''} represents molybdenum oxide

M represents a promoter,

E represents at least one precious metal, and

x, y', y'' and z represent the number of oxygen atoms needed to satisfy the valencies of the organic-inorganic and/or purely inorganic elements Si, Ti, Mo and M.

~~(i) — at least one support material comprising free SiH groups; and~~

~~(ii) — at least one precious metal compound and/or at least one precious metal particle;~~

wherein more than 50% of the precious metal in the precious metal-containing support has a diameter in the range of from 0.01 to 10 nm.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): The precious metal-containing support according to Claim 7, wherein the amount of Org is between 5 and 200 mole%, based on the amount of silicon oxide~~at least one support material is an organic-inorganic hybrid material.~~

Claim 9 (Currently amended): The precious metal-containing support according to Claim 7, wherein the amount of SiH is between 0.01 and 100 mole %, based on the amount of~~at least one support material comprises silicon oxide.~~

Claim 10 (Currently amended): The precious metal-containing support according to Claim 97, wherein the ~~at least one support material comprises 0 to 20 mole %~~ amount of titanium oxide is between 0.3 and 20 mole %, based on the amount of silicon oxide.

Claim 11 (Currently amended): The precious metal-containing support according to Claim 97, wherein the ~~at least one support material comprises 0 to 20 mole %~~ amount of molybdenum oxide is between 0.05 and 20 mole %, based on the amount of silicon oxide.

Claim 12 (Currently amended): The precious metal-containing support according to Claim 97, wherein the ~~at least one support material comprises SiH groups in a range between 0.01 and 80 mole %, based on the amount of silicon oxide~~ the amount of E is between 0.001 and 20 wt.% of the composition.

Claim 13 (Cancelled)

Claim 14 (Original): The precious-metal containing support of Claim 7, wherein the precious metal-containing support has catalytic activity.

Claims 15-17 (Withdrawn)

Claim 18 (Cancelled)

Claim 19 (Re-presented – formerly dependent Claim 5): A process for preparing a precious metal-containing support comprising:

- (a) bringing
 - (i) at least one support material comprising free SiH groups into contact with
 - (ii) at least one precious metal compound and/or at least one precious metal particle for up to two hours to form a precious metal-containing support wherein the precious metal on the precious metal-containing support has a diameter in the range of from 0.01 to 10 nm; and

- (b) drying the precious metal-containing support by a spray drying process or by a fluidized bed process.

Claim 20 (New): The process according to Claim 19, wherein the at least one support material comprises an organic-inorganic hybrid material.

Claim 21 (New): The process according to Claim 19, wherein the at least one precious metal compound and/or the at least one precious metal particle is selected from the group consisting of gold, silver, palladium, platinum, ruthenium and mixtures thereof.

Claim 22 (New): The process according to Claim 19, wherein the contact time is less than 0.5 hour.

Claim 23 (New): The process according to Claim 19, wherein the at least one support material is thermally treated before and/or after contact with the at least one precious metal compound and/or the at least one precious metal particle.

Claim 24 (New): The precious metal-containing support according to Claim 7, wherein the promoter comprises at least one oxide of Ta, Fe, Sb, V, Nb, Zr, Al, B, Y and Ge.

Claim 25 (New): The precious metal-containing support according to Claim 7, wherein E comprises at least one of gold, silver, palladium, platinum and ruthenium.